

Human Services Advisory Committee Minutes of December 9, 2015 Meeting

Present: Ron Baker (Member at Large); Lorraine Kenowski (Member at Large); Ethel Mantzaris (YSB), chair; Joan Terry (Senior Center Assn.); Victoria Nimirowski (WAIM)

Absent: Dexter Eddy (Housing Authority); Fred Goetz (ADA); Jennifer Hoskins, (Comm. on Aging); Carol Norrish, (Mansfield Advocates for Children)

Staff: Pat Schneider (Director of Human Services)

The chairman called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. The minutes from the May 2015 meeting were approved with the correction of one typo. Pat mentioned that Jennifer Hoskins has resigned from the Committee on Aging and will not be attending our meetings as their representative.

Staff – Pat updated us on the work and staffing of the Human Resource department.

Staffing: Pat Michelak will stay at her position with Youth Services at least through June of 2016. The Youth Social Worker position is vacant and hopefully the position will be posted soon.

Senior Center: Final interviews have been held for the Program Coordinator position and the position should be filled very shortly. The Senior Outreach Worker has been filling in at Youth Services making her position full-time temporarily.

Playground: The new accessible playground has opened and is always busy.

Youth Services: A new program for people with special needs and their families is very popular.

Holiday Program: Over 50 individuals are being served through the adopt-a-family program. Every one who requested assistance is being accommodated.

Meetings in 2016: January 27, April 27, September 28, December 14

In response to a question asking whether any refugees are being helped in Mansfield, Pat explained some of the difficulties the department faces when dealing with those who are not citizens of the United States.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Terry, Secretary